## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 00282 130841Z

16

**ACTION EA-09** 

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-11 OMB-01 AID-05 EB-07 /090 W ------ 070881

R 130815Z JAN 76 FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN AMEMBASSY KUWAIT INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 282

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EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, KS

SUBJECT: ROK NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPEAKER TO VISIT IRAN, KUWAIT

- 1. ROK NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPEAKER CHONG IL-KWON IS PLANNING TO VISIT TEHRAN JANUARY 28-31 (ARRIVING 0845 VIA PAA 001) AND KUWAIT JANUARY 31-FEBRUARY 2 (ARRIVING 0945 VIA KUWAIT AIR-LINES 901). THE TRIP IS BILLED AS A RESPONSE TO VISITS TO SEOUL BY THE SPEAKERS OF THE IRANIAN AND KUWAITI NATIONAL ASSEMBLIES. CHONG WILL REPORTEDLY BE ACCOMPANIED BY FIVE OTHER NATIONAL ASSEMBLYMEN AND A SUPPORTING CAST OF ABOUT TEN. NO FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS WILL BE IN THE PARTY.
- 2. CHONG IS AN EXTREMELY INFLUENTIAL, THOUGH CIRCUMSPECT, FIGURE IN THE ROK. HE HAS SERVED AS PRIME MINISTER, HAS BEEN ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF ON TWO OCCASIONS, THE FIRST TIME AT ONLY 33 YEARS OF AGE, AND WAS AT ONE TIME AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S. CHONG IS A CLOSE AND VALUED FRIEND OF THE U.S. HIS CONTACTS WITH THE U.S. CONGRESS ARE LEGION.
- 3. WE DO NOT EXPECT THESE VISITS TO GENERATE MUCH SUBSTANCE, BUT THEY INDICATE INCREASING ATTENTION ROK IS PAYING TO THE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 SEOUL 00282 130841Z

OIL-RICH NATIONS OF THE PERSIAN GULF. CHONG HAS NOT

ASKED FOR ANY U.S. ASSISTANCE DURING HIS TRIP, BUT MEMBERS OF HIS PARTY MAY CONTACT U.S. EMBASSY. OM YONG-TAL, OPPOSITION NATIONAL ASSEMBLYMAN AND FORMER MOFA OFFICIAL WILL BE WITH THE PARTY AND MAY BE POINTOF CONTACT WITH U.S. EMBASSIES. SNEIDER

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Subject: ROK NATIONAL ASSEMBLY SPEAKER TO VISIT IRAN, KUWAIT

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP, KS, (CHONG IL-KWON)

To: TEHRAN KUWAIT

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